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Country Needs Conservation— Not Conversation

We Hope and Believe That Mr. Hoover Understands This.

Men in important positions should inspire courage by showing that they possess it.

They should inspire confidence by refraining from excitable semi-hysterical exclamations of terror.

Mr. Hoover disappointed his friends, when he announced possible famine impending, and suggested that the trouble was not with him, but with railroad incompetency.

Mr. Hoover is supposed to find, secure, and distribute the food. The business of the railroads is to TRANSPORT it after Mr. Hoover says where it is and where he wants it to go.

We are not informed of any failure to do transporting. Mr. Hoover's implied criticism of the railroads is bad because it discourages the railroad personnel, suggests general lack of confidence, and makes more difficult the gigantic task of suddenly organizing on a basis of central efficient economical direction the dozens of disconnected, disorganized railroad systems.

Every man in public office should bear in mind the fact that PUBLIC CONFIDENCE is the nation's chief asset. No frightened, discouraged man wins any battle.

"Calamity Jane" is amusing on the comic page, but out of place in important public work.

Mr. McAdoo has sent to Mr. Hoover, Food Administrator, a letter that has the right tone, and indicates that the President chose the right man to bring order and efficiency out of railroad chaos.

Mr. McAdoo says to Mr. Hoover:

"(1) You are, as I understand it, the sole purchaser in this country of food supplies for the Allied governments.

"(2) You must, therefore, know the location of the food supplies which you from time to time purchase, and the ports in the United States to which you desire such supplies shipped.

"(3) If you will notify me from time to time of the location of the specific supplies and the port or ports in the United States to which you wish to have such supplies transported, I will guarantee the necessary transportation, subject alone to interruptions from blizzards and floods."

Following this very explicit statement and guarantee, Mr. McAdoo's letter puts to Mr. Hoover this question:

"I am eager to co-operate with you to relieve all anxiety about food supplies for the allies. Will you co-operate with me by promptly furnishing me with the essential information called for in items 1 and 2 above? If you do, the transportation will be provided. You can readily understand that generalizations will not accomplish the object in view and that we must be specific in order to get results."

Mr. Hoover is a very earnest man, and the public, while knowing little about him, believes in his sincerity and his efficiency.

It is rather disturbing to observe what seems to be an inclination to shift responsibility, by suggesting inability of railroads to transport foodstuffs that have not been offered to the railroads for transportation.

Men with the serious work of the war on their hands should first of all display courage, discuss with each other their difficulties, and only as a last resort appear weeping before the public, with warnings of famine.

The public has anxiety enough without being told prematurely that it must expect to starve to death.

It is a pleasure to inform those unnecessarily frightened that long trains, loaded exclusively with foodstuffs and totaling as many as a thousand freight cars, are following each other from West to East, with right of way, utilizing all available trackage—a display of concentration and efficiency unknown to American railroading thus far.

The marvel is that the railroads, suddenly taken over by Government, should have met with such efficiency the worst winter of blizzards and snowstorms on record, plus the ill will of highly paid railroad men, fearful of losing salaries and graft.

The Great Dollar Bill

It Is Not As Great As It Was.

In a speech on Government ownership and control of water power, Congressman William A. Kent, of California, said:

We have been too prone to start at the wrong end of the argument and to consider private property as the foundation of society, instead of considering society as the sole foundation and protection of private property.

That truth this war will drive into the heads of many "respectable financiers."

The old theory took, as foundation of the United States, the dollar bill, and everything must be built around that dollar carefully and respectfully.

The people now learn that the day's labor of a human being, the welfare of the majority, the needs of the nation as opposed to the greeds of the individual, are the foundation of everything, and will rule.

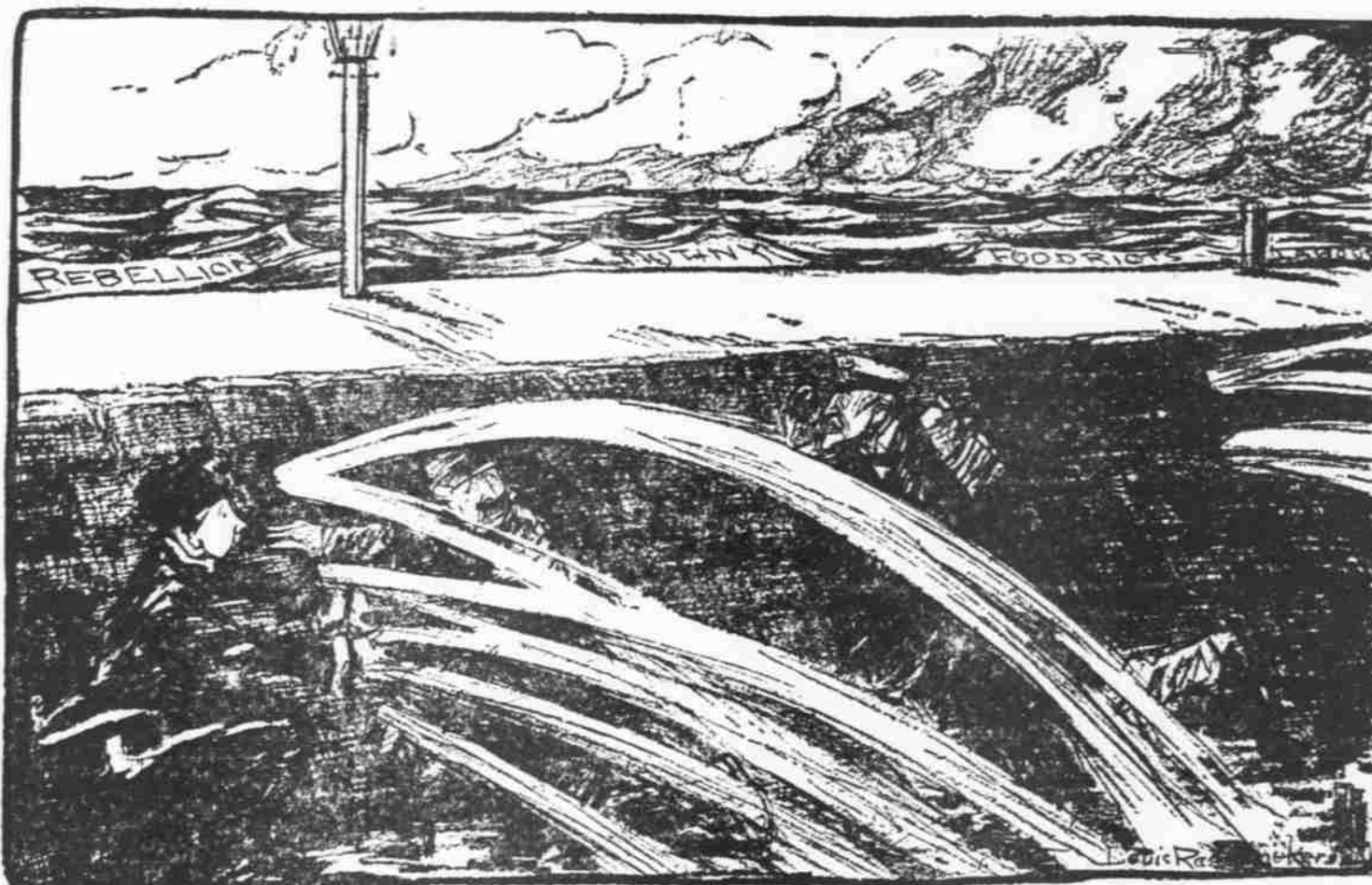
Speculation, big and little, hung out fresh, new flags, and smiled new smiles when the country went into the war. Crepe will hang out before it is finished. Old ideas as to the

(Continued in Last Column.)

Close Harmony



Work Ahead for the Kaiser



This picture by Raemaekers, reproduced from "Puck," shows the Kaiser and his beloved son busy with the problems that Russia may bring.

It is one thing to become boss of the Russian ocean and put a wall around it—another thing to keep it where you want it.

Mrs. Wilson Woodrow Says Discipline Improves All Minds

THE other day as I was going to my dressmaker's, I passed a woman who was just coming out. She was charmingly dressed and most unusually pretty, but I noticed that her beauty was greatly marred by a fretful, anxious expression.

"What have you been doing to annoy the excited lady I met on the steps?" I asked my dressmaker laughingly.

She shrugged her shoulders sympathetically. "It's a pity about her," she said. "She has everything that any woman could want, not a care in the world, and yet she worries herself to death over trifles, things that other people would never stop to consider. She keeps every one around her in a stew. Her mother and her husband break their necks to please her, but she's never satisfied. She has been too much humored all her life. What she needs is discipline."

"Oh, well," I said consolingly. "Don't bother. She'll get it. Life will see to that."

A Guiding Angel. I began to think of that word discipline. It isn't on first consideration, particularly pleasant. It sounds too much like punishment. It has a harsh, hard, menacing sound, and suggests the iron rule of an unrelenting taskmaster. I find one definition of the word in the dictionary given as "The act or art of teaching, instructing, and training the mind and manners," and immediately it appears in a kinder light. The unrelenting taskmaster is transformed into a guiding angel, for there are very few of us in the world who are not in sad need of more and still more training of both our minds and our manners. Work is the greatest discipli-

narian in the world, definite, regular work, coupled with the knowledge that if you do not come up to the standard you will lose your job. The reason there are so many wretched housekeepers and miserable cooks among the married is that they know they hold their jobs for life and can't be fired for incompetence; at least, that is one reason; another is, a multiplicity of duties, so various that no particular one of them can receive due attention, and still another is, that they have not the incentive of a weekly pay envelope, and in many cases no pay envelopes at all, even a yearly one.

An Illustration.

The trained woman is the disciplined woman, and this is the hour of the trained woman. There are women of great wealth who are highly trained, because much is required of them. The business and

professional women are also thoroughly trained because the exigencies of their work demand it, but there is a large, intermediate class, composed either of the wives or daughters of well-to-do men. These have nothing much to do in life except amuse themselves, and it is they who suffer most from the fickleness of fortune.

I read this incident recently in a book by Helen Fraser, who is an authority on the work done by women in the war: "On one occasion in France in an air raid enemy bombs came very near some girl signallers. They behaved splendidly, and some one suggested it should be mentioned in the Order of the Day. 'No,' said the commanding officer, 'we don't mention soldiers in orders for doing their duty.' It was a fine tribute and one which they had justly won."

Shifting the Burden

It Appears That the Telephone Company Rates Are To Be Increased. Business Men and Residents To Pay the Charge the Government Ought To Pay.

By EARL GODWIN.

The telephone company is preparing to unload a war burden to the shoulders of some one else, and District building reporters seem to think the heaviest part of the load will be placed on the shoulders of the unprotected public.

Let me call attention again to the fact that the greatest burden the telephone company is carrying has been imposed by the offices of the War Department, Navy Department, Council of National Defense, and the various new organizations created since the opening of hostilities.

All of the new wiring, the new switchboards, the new operators, the need for training new employees, and the great increase in the capital account of the telephone company has been ENTIRELY due to Government activities.

The big rush of business, the poor service, the general dissatisfaction has been the result of Government business and official calls.

The telephone company has not charged the Government for its enormous service anywhere near the rate charged for business and household service. If this Government business should be charged for equitably, I believe the rates to the city at large would be high enough for a proper income to the company.

I certainly trust that before the Public Utilities Commission authorizes higher rates it will make sure it is not putting a burden on the shoulders of the business men and residents of the city, a burden which the offices of the Government should bear.

The question of Government control is another matter. It does not seem possible that the telephone company will jump at the opportunity to be run by the Postoffice Department, as the telephone company is a conscientious objector to Government control.

Government ownership operates for service and not for dividends, and that's something that will come perhaps in the millennium.

HEARD AND SEEN

NAMING THE TUB

J. V. CULVERWELL says it is a GOSTOP.

And that at night when the policeman is wearing a big white rubber coat it's a GHOST UP.

Frank Godwin, the famous Philadelphia artist, says he doesn't care how it's named, but he would like to know what is in it.

OSCAR OLIVER, from the Government proving ground at Indian Head, calls it a "COPSKY."

Highbrow stuff from B. F. SMITH, 1316 Irving street: "Semaphore"—signal apparatus. "Cicorone"—a guide. "En regle"—in order. "In situ"—in its proper place.

And W. P. L., whose name I insist upon having in full, comes across with the neatest little verse you ever saw

Look!
If you wish to baptize this Urbanized stump
And not call it stand or a box or a bump,
Nor make a bachante of a box on a tub
Pray call the famed structure "Trafficular Hub."

How about SIG-NOLA? Sounds like some kind of a drink, rather than a traffic tub. Guess we'll pass that one up.

R. L. H. says call it COPASEM, from the Greek word Copa, meaning policeman, and Sema, meaning sign.

Editorial From the New York World

ANOTHER CONSCRIPTION IN PROSPECT.

When it becomes necessary for the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to entreat the governors of prohibition States in which army camps and cantonments are situated to stamp out moonshining, it will be seen that the arguments in favor of a national constitutional amendment are not altogether convincing.

The illicit manufacture of strong drink, always a considerable industry in the South, has increased greatly of late, and the business is said to be highly prosperous also in Kansas, Iowa, and Oregon. As these Western States and most of the Southern States are dependent upon to ratify the amendment which, if adopted, may lead the great industrial States

of the North into the devious ways of moonshining, the Commissioner can hardly be blamed for asking their help before nationwide prohibition makes the duties of his office too heavy to be borne.

No prohibition State ever puts its own moonshiners out of business. That is the National Government's job. Last year in North Carolina alone Federal agents destroyed 1,109 illicit stills. "Corn liquor" is selling today at from \$8 to \$12 a quart in many so-called dry districts. It will readily be seen, therefore, that if we are to establish these conditions in every one of the forty-eight States, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, falling of local help, may have to imitate the War Department and resort to conscription.

The Great Dollar Bill

(Continued from First Column.)

dollar's importance and almightiness are withering.

In the same talk Mr. Kent said:

The water power of the country, indestructible, perennial, must be held for public welfare or else there can be nothing ahead of us in times to come but a revolution that will surely demand an abrogation of the special privileges that we have so recklessly conferred.

There is no need of revolution in this country. If organized money is not entirely stupid, there will not be the kind of revolution that takes society and stands it on its head.

There WILL be, however, a revolution in thinking. Truth concerning the value of a man will go to the top, and the false ideas concerning the importance of a dollar will sink to the bottom.

If not, a choice collection of "conservatives" may lose millions they don't need, and other things they do need.